



County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

JAMES MACLACHLAN,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

1953.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
1953.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1953. As is usual the Minister's requirements have been met.

The population living in the new housing estates on the town's perimeter was catered for very successfully by the inauguration of a Mobile Clinic, the first of its kind. Health Departments in this and other countries have sought information about the Clinic and visiting deputations have exhibited marked interest in it. The Health Committee's decision to go ahead with this project has satisfied a need, saved time and money, and produced a service readily available to every family.

The three major divisions of the National Health Service can take pride in the fact that the Infant Mortality Rate is the lowest yet recorded although further improvement must continue to be sought.

With regard to infectious diseases, the rise in incidence of whooping cough gave emphasis to the need for immunisation of young children against this disease so that the introduction of such a service during the latter half of the year was received by parents with enthusiasm. Yet another year has passed without a single case of diphtheria, but the low degree of immunity is most disquieting as the disease can easily reappear. Health Visitors are very much alive to the need to press home the advantage of diphtheria immunisation. Although dysentery is endemic in the town its clinical prevalence can be markedly controlled as is mentioned in the Report. An outbreak of Food Poisoning, to which reference has also been made, focussed attention on the need for clean food. The Sanitary Inspectors continue to promote personal hygiene in respect of persons engaged in food handling and preparation.

There was another heavy year of work for the Ambulance Service but two milestones were reached, namely, the completion of a new garage to house six ambulances, and the installation of radio telephones in three of the ambulances. This latter innovation has resulted in economy of mileage and has stepped up the efficiency of the service.

A study of the work of the Mental Health section of the Department shows the continuing need for an occupation centre. From a preventive viewpoint it is encouraging to note the rise in the number of cases being admitted to hospital as voluntary patients.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is responsible for environmental health, that generic title which covers a horde of important duties, and perusal of this section of the report reveals the volume of exacting work carried out by the inspectors. The amount of shipping entering the harbour during the year increased but port health remained generally good. The sanitary circumstances of the area showed no major change and the town is singularly fortunate in being free from gross atmospheric pollution and from the problems of dealing with areas for slum clearance. An analysis of iced lollies necessitated the discontinuation of the use of metal moulds which were found to cause an excessive amount of lead in the lollies.

Following controversy over the Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1948, a start was made upon a controlled investigation to examine the bacteriological state of periwinkles in the Walney Channel. This was considered to be the fairest and most sensible way of dealing with a matter of public concern.

Once again I am most grateful for the support of the Health Committee, the loyalty of the staff of the Health Department, and the assistance of all those who have contributed towards the year's work.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES MACLACHLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

The following assistants were employed on the work of Public Health in the Borough at the end of the year under review :

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Deputy Medical Officer of Health in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare Work and Inspector of Midwives	Dorothy G. Stewart, M.B., Ch.B.
Assistant Medical Officers	Maude W. Smith, M.D. R. A. H. Morison, M.B., Ch.B.
Chief Dental Officer	Arthur Fielding, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officer	Winifred G. Sivewright, L.D.S.

SANITARY

Chief Sanitary Inspector	J. Shanks, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection), Cert.R.S.I. (Smoke Inspection).
Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector	H. C. Perkins, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection).
Sanitary Inspector for Meat Inspection	A. A. Kay, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection), Cert.R.S.I. (Smoke Inspection), Cert.R.S.I. (Sanitary Science).
District Sanitary Inspectors	F. Nickson, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection), F. Holloway, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, J. Spencer, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection), E. T. Swift, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection), R. Wigglesworth, Cert. R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert. R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection).
Trainee Sanitary Inspector	T. B. Nuttall.

HEALTH VISITING AND MIDWIFERY.

Superintendent Nursing Officer	Vacant.
Health Visitors	Miss E. Cunliffe, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. K. Burns, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. E. M. Tilburn, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. Scott, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. P. Antcliffe, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss A. W. Cant, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. Latham, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. M. Bell, S.R.N. Miss B. M. Wignall, S.R.N.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	Miss R. Ward, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Municipal Midwives	Miss A. Bagshaw, S.C.M. Miss G. M. Fytche, S.C.M. Mrs. F. Garstang, S.C.M. Miss D. J. Gaskarth, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. Miss T. Potts, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. M. Railton, S.C.M. Mrs. E. G. Watson, S.C.M.
HOME NURSING SERVICE.	
Superintendent	Miss H. M. White, S.R.N., S.C.M., Housekeeping Cert., H.V., Q.N.
Assistant Superintendent....	Miss D. A. Stocks, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
District Nursing Sisters	Miss D. Moscrop, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., Q.N. Miss J. Lindop, S.R.N. Miss E. M. Jackson, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. B. Langley, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. E. Preston, S.R.N. Mrs. M. J. Cringle, S.R.N. Miss A. T. Goulding, S.R.N. Miss P. Wiper, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. I. Robson, S.R.N.
PHYSIOTHERAPY.	
Physiotherapist	Miss M. Johnson, C.S.P., M.E., L.E.T.
AMBULANCE SERVICE.	
Ambulance Officer	J. H. Smethurst.
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.	
Duly Authorised Officer	H. Kitchin.
Assistant Duly Authorised Officer	H. Hughes.
ADMINISTRATION.	
Chief Clerk	A. Gawthrop.
CLERICAL.	
Senior Clerk	H. Smith.

ADDRESSES.

Public Health Department	Town Hall.
Sanitary Inspector's Office	Town Hall.
Ante-Natal, Post-Natal and Gynæcological Clinics	Risedale, Abbey Road.
M. & C.W. Clinic	} Central Clinic, Abbey Road.
Dental Clinic	
U.V.R. & Remedial Exercises Clinic	
Minor Ailments Clinic	"Arndene," Abbey Road.
Ambulance Station	Fire Station, Abbey Road.
District Nurses' Homes	2 Fairfield Lane. 27 Mikasa Street.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1953

Material from suspected infectious cases is examined at the Group Pathological Laboratory, Barrow-in-Furness.

FOOD POISONING

In mid August, 24 cases of food poisoning occurred and the common factor appeared to be corned beef with cereal sold open and sliced from one retailer, among whose staff no evidence of an infectious source was found on medical and bacteriological examination. Inspection of shop and utensils revealed a satisfactory standard of cleanliness. All patients purchased their meat from the same shop within one hour, their total purchase being just less than one 6 lb. tin. No illness among purchasers of other 5 tins of corned beef with cereal sold on the same day at the same shop was notified. This inferred that one tin contained pathogenes. The organisms found in patients' stools were the same as that found in samples of the opened meat (*staphylococcus aureus*) three of which had been rejected by customers.

A representative sample of 39 unopened tins of the suspected meat was taken by Sanitary Inspectors of this Department in whose opinion 26 seals were irregular and 4 tins were blown. The sample was submitted for bacteriological examination to a laboratory from which some unopened tins were also sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory.

Of the 39 tins so analysed, 14 were infected as follows:—1 tin coagulase positive staphylococci, 8 tins micrococci, 5 tins staphylococci of two types, 1 tin aerobic streptococci of a viridans type.

One unopened tin contained coagulase positive staphylococci and the bacteriological picture suggested that contamination took place after processing. The bacteriophage type of this strain of staphylococci was compared with that of the strains isolated from the corned beef connected with the outbreak. It was difficult to be certain whether the strain which caused the outbreak was already present in the unopened tin.

On consideration of the bacteriological results obtained it seemed to be doubtful whether any of the tins from which the representative sample was taken should be passed for retail sale in Barrow-in-Furness and it was decided therefore that in the interests of the public it would be safer to secure the surrender of all those tins.

The meat had been canned in Australia and imported by a London firm. The Medical Officer of Health of London was informed and he requested the importers, who were very co-operative, to secure the return of unsold stocks of the suspected product from retailers all over the country. The Ministry of Food and the Australian Meat Board were also appraised of the circumstances.

DYSENTERY

This infection is endemic in the Barrow area and the 23 cases which were notified during the year were all caused by the Sonne strain of the dysentery group and all but three of these cases occurred in children. The cases occurred sporadically in time and place and no common source of infection was traceable. The cases arose in family groups of two or three with the exception of an outbreak in the Roose Children's Home, where seven children were affected.

In this Home epidemiological investigations of the spread of the infection pointed to the absence of hygienic precautions in the handling of infected children permitting cross infection to occur either directly or indirectly through the medium of staff. A clear directive was therefore given that strict care should be observed in handling chamber pots, in the thorough disposal of faeces, in the cleansing of finger nails after toilet and in the handling of prepared food.

SCARLET FEVER

There was a very sharp rise in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever during the year and the epidemic appeared to conform to the periodicity of Scarlet Fever prevalence. However no death occurred and in fact the evidence available pointed to a continuity of the mild form of the disease which we have experienced for many years.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The facilities provided for the School Health Service are extended to children of pre-school age, a proportion of the cost being borne by the Health Committee.

The main conditions dealt with are scabies, head lice and ringworm, and these receive treatment at the Central Clinic. Stubborn cases are referred to the Skin Department at North Lonsdale Hospital.

Adults are given advice and materials to cleanse themselves and in difficult cases are admitted to hospital.

WATER.

There has been no change in the source of water supply since last year and the quantity and quality has remained satisfactory. Bacteriological and chemical control is maintained by the Water Department. The plumbo solvent action of the water is corrected by the addition of lime to give a pH value of approximately 9.0.

Measures to be taken to safeguard the gathering grounds are in course of preparation.

Some 19,790 dwelling houses comprising the majority of the population are supplied direct from the public mains ; there are no standpipes.

PORT HEALTH SURVEY, 1953.

SECTION I—STAFF.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of appointment	Date of appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
Dr. James Maclachlan	Medical Officer of Health	7/3/52	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	
Dr. Dorothy G. Stewart	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	5/10/48	M.B., Ch.B.	
John Shanks	Port Health Officer	1/4/42	Cert.R.S.I. & S.I. Joint Board, etc.	Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Herbert C. Perkins	Port Health Officer	1/7/52	Cert.R.S.I. & S.I. Joint Board, etc.	Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health—Town Hall, Barrow-in-Furness. Telephone No. : Barrow 600.

SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of Ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports....	167	316,234	10	167	Nil.
Coastwise	398	140,193	2	64	Nil.
Total	565	456,427	12	231	Nil.

SECTION III—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	{	Number of passengers INWARDS—Nil. Number of passengers OUTWARDS—Nil.
CARGO TRAFFIC	{	Principal IMPORTS—Iron Ore, Wood Pulp, Pulp Wood, Cork and Scrap Metal. Principal EXPORTS—Coke, Pig Iron and Ingot Moulds.

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive—Bona, Melilla, Almeria, Narvik, Atterbeckery, Montyluoto, Oxelosund, Ymuiden, Oskarshamn, Victoria, Lulea, Azzew, Gefle, Kirkines, Hornillo, Setubal, Svano, Ayr, Liverpool, Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no inland barge traffic within the district.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

- (1) Source of supply for (a) the district—Upland surface source.
(b) The town's water supply is available at the dock side and is used for shipping.
- (2) Reports of tests for contamination—Nil.
- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes—Hydrants and hosepipes are protected and stored in a water shed when not in actual use.
- (4) There are no water boats in use at the Port.

SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

- (1) LIST OF INFECTED AREAS. (Regulation 6).
A list of Infected Areas is prepared and amended by the Medical Officer of Health from the official list of Infected Areas. A typewritten list of Infected Areas is prepared from the official list of Infected Areas and is delivered by hand to H.M. Customs and Excise Officers.
- (2) RADIO MESSAGES.
Arrangements have been made with Seaforth Radio Station and the Post Office Telephones to send and receive radio messages from ships entering the Port.
- (3) NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO. (Regulation 14(1) (b)).
Telephonic communication from Shipping Agents.
- (4) MOORING STATIONS. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Within Docks: An inner mooring station near Buccleuch Bridge within the Ramsden Dock has been established as a mooring station for all unhealthy ships arriving at Barrow. On arrival of an infected ship or a suspect ship, the vessel is taken to the designated mooring station.
- (5) ARRANGEMENTS FOR—
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox).
Arrangements have been made to receive seamen suffering from infectious disease to be admitted to Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital.
 - (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.
The surveillance and follow up of contacts is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors.
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.
In cases of necessity the arrangements for the cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Officers, and cases requiring isolation would be found accommodation at the Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital.

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX.

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospitals to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.
Elswick Leys Smallpox Hospital, Blackpool.
Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Bury.
- (2) Arrangements have been made to remove all such cases by Corporation ambulances to the hospital. Members of the ambulance crew have been vaccinated recently.
- (3) Name of smallpox consultant available.
Dr. R. W. Farquhar, Victoria House, Regent Street, Lancaster.
- (4) There are no facilities available locally for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE.

A local centre exists at the Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital for the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Disease. Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities is supplied by notice to the Master or other responsible Officer on a vessel's arrival. The times of the Clinic are as follows:—Monday 7—8 p.m., Wednesday 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m., Friday 2—3 p.m.

SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

TABLE D.

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases landed from other ships	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

There have been no reported cases of Malaria entering the Port during the year.

SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

No vessels arrived at the Port either plague infected or plague suspected.

No vessels from plague infected Ports arrived during the year.

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

All vessels from foreign ports entering the Port are, where necessary, systematically inspected by the Port Health Officers to ascertain the degree of rodent infestation on board.

A macroscopic examination of rats caught is carried out at frequent intervals by the Medical Officer and the Port Health Officers. There were no rats sent for bacteriological examination during the year.

Arrangements have been made, when necessary, for the deratting of ships by means of Hydrogen Cyanide to be carried out by a commercial contractor, Messrs. Hivey Fumigation Co., Ltd., 15, Cheapside, Liverpool, 2.

It has not been found necessary to carry out any rat-proofing of ships during the year.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category	Number
Black rats	27
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED
DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

No. of Deratting Cerificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates Issued
After fumigation with		After trapping	After poisoning	Total		
HCN	Other fumigant					
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	36	36

As from 1st October, 1952, the Port was included in the list of ports where the Medical Officer of Health is authorised to issue Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates.

SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine Inspections and Re-Inspection....	341	Nil.	31 written in- formal Notices. 6 verbal Notic- es to Master or Chief Officer.	All the nuisances have so far as practicable been abated, prior to the vessel leaving the Port.
Total 	341	Nil.	37	....

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS.

There are no special arrangements for the interment of dead arriving by sea. The body is first examined by the Medical Officer of Health.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

11 Rodent Control Certificates were issued under the provisions of the above-mentioned Order during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION.

No foodstuffs arrived at the Port during the year, therefore no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-1940.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH MARITIME DECLARATIONS OF HEALTH.

A blank Maritime Declaration of Health form is handed to the Master of every ship approaching the Port as soon as the Pilot boards. On arrival at the Port the completed form is inspected by the Customs Officer or Port Health Officer, whoever is first aboard.

BOARDING OF VESSELS ON ARRIVAL.

Vessels arriving from infected or suspected ports are always boarded by a Customs Officer and Port Health Officer together. Other vessels are usually boarded by a Customs Officer in the first instant.

RESTRICTION ON BOARDING OR LEAVING SHIPS.

Instructions have been given to Harbour Authorities, tradespeople and other persons in the habit of visiting ships at the Port to keep clear until the ship is free from control.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

The following is a summary, prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, of the work carried out in his Department during the year 1953:—

HOUSING.**HOUSING ACT, 1936.****Section 9.****INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSE RENDERED FIT.**

One Formal Notice was served in respect of a dwelling-house which though unfit for Human Habitation was capable of being rendered Fit at reasonable expense. The work was carried out in default by the Corporation.

Section 11

One Notice was served in respect of a Dwelling-house.

Section 12**CLOSING ORDERS.**

No. of Closing Orders made in respect of Unfit Dwellings	1
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Sections 25 and 26

Following a Ministry Inquiry, the Barrow-in-Furness (Hindpool Flats) Clearance Order, 1938, was confirmed in April, 1953. The Order involves the Clearance of 258 Flats and 11 other premises, and provides for the vacation of one-third of the flats in 18 months, one-third in 24 months, and the remaining third in 36 months.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

No. of complaints regarding nuisances and sanitary defects received and investigated	851
No. of inspections and re-inspections made under the provisions of the Public Health Act & Housing Act	9777
No. of Intimation Notices served in connection with Nuisances and Sanitary Defects	542
No. of Statutory Notices served in connection with Nuisances and Sanitary Defects	407
No. of Orders obtained in the Magistrates' Court in respect of Un-abated Nuisances	8
No. of inspections of Cinemas, Theatres and Music Halls	68
No. of miscellaneous inspections (Piggeries, Stables, etc.)	460
No. of interviews with owners and agents, etc.	1375

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year as a result of formal action, and in addition to a considerable amount of work effected as a result of informal action :—

WATER CLOSETS, FLUSHING APPARATUS, ETC.

No. of W.C. roofs repaired	54
No. of W.C. floors repaired or renewed	3
No. of W.C. doors repaired or renewed	38
No. of W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	74
No. of W.C. flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	33
No. of W.C. flushing apparatus provided with a proper supply of water	3
No. of broken pedestal W.C. basins renewed	17
No. of W.C. conversions	17
No. of W.C. seats repaired or renewed	17
No. of defective W.C. walls repaired or rebuilt	52
No. of defective connections between W.C. basin & flushpipe repaired	27

EAVES GUTTERS, RAINWATER PIPES, HOPPER HEADS, ETC.

No. of premises on which eaves gutters were cleared, repaired or renewed	178
No. of premises on which rainwater pipes were repaired or renewed	111
No. of defective lead valley gutters repaired or renewed	1
No. of yard gulleys unstopped	15
No. of broken gulleys renewed	24
No. of gratings provided to gulleys	3

DRAINAGE AND YARD PAVING, ETC.

No. of stopped W.C. drains cleared and repaired	12
No. of defective W.C. drains repaired or relaid	19
No. of defective surface water drains repaired or relaid	7
No. of stopped surface water drains cleared and repaired	32
No. of defective drain vent shafts repaired or renewed	27
No. of leaking yard drains repaired or renewed	9
No. of defective yard surfaces repaired or renewed	72
No. of broken and defective sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	56
No. of broken and defective bath waste pipes repaired or renewed	3
No. of defective W.C. soil pipes repaired or renewed	8
No. of drainage systems overhauled and relaid	16
No. of cases of cellar flooding remedied	2

YARD WALLS, YARD DOORS, ETC.

No. of defective yard doors repaired or renewed	56
No. of defective yard walls repaired or renewed	40
No. of disused ash-pits removed	1

GENERAL REPAIRS AND RENEWALS TO DWELLING-HOUSES.

No. of roofs repaired	252
No. of floors repaired or renewed	93
No. of cases of dampness in walls remedied	144
No. of cases of defective plasterwork of walls repaired or renewed	508
No. of defective house walls repaired or rebuilt	103
No. of cases of defective plasterwork of ceilings repaired or renewed	123
No. of defective doors repaired or renewed	106
No. of defective kitchen firegrates repaired or renewed	27
No. of defective parlour firegrates repaired or renewed	15
No. of defective bedroom firegrates repaired or renewed	4
No. of defective chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	24
No. of defective chimney flues repaired or reconstructed	16
No. of defective flashings repaired or renewed	32
No. of defective washing boilers repaired or renewed	8
No. of defective cement renderings to external walls repaired or renewed	19
No. of defective skylights repaired or renewed	12
No. of defective fanlights repaired or renewed	1
No. of defective sinks renewed or refixed	35
No. of vent bricks provided to walls	3
No. of loose handrails to staircases refixed	3
No. of defective fixed cupboards, shelves, etc., repaired or renewed	0
No. of defective firegrate surrounds and hearths repaired or renewed	14
No. of defective window frames repaired or renewed	158
No. of defective window sills repaired or renewed	30
No. of defective window sashes repaired or renewed	65
No. of cases of defective window glazing remedied	4
No. of defective window cords remedied	186
No. of rooms in which skirting boards were provided or repaired	16
No. of broken and dangerous steps repaired or renewed	13
No. of defective firebacks to kitchen ranges repaired	32
No. of defective mantelpieces repaired or renewed	4
No. of surrounds to sinks repaired	38
No. of defective fireboxes to washing boilers repaired or renewed	2
No. of hot water cisterns repaired or renewed	1
No. of defective staircases reconstructed or repaired	7
No. of defective weatherbars & threshwoods provided or repaired	30
No. of defective gas pipes and fittings repaired	2
No. of broken chimney pots replaced	8
No. of cases of defective pointing remedied	252
No. of defective taps repaired	5

OTHER NUISANCES.

No. of filthy, unwholesome or verminous premises cleansed or disinfested	3
No. of nuisances from filthy bedding abated	1
No. of accumulations of offensive refuse removed	6
No. of dirty and insanitary areas to buildings cleansed	2
No. of miscellaneous nuisances abated	6

WATER SUPPLY TO OCCUPIED DWELLING-HOUSES.

No. of Statutory Notices served under the provisions of Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring the provision of a sufficient supply of wholesome water to dwelling-houses	11
No. of dwelling-houses provided with a sufficient supply of water	18
No. of dwelling-houses provided with a sufficient supply of water by the Corporation in default of owners	1
No. of leaking water pipes repaired	13

DRAINAGE WORK.

The provisions of Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1936, regarding the notification to be given to the Local Authority of the repair, reconstruction or alteration of the course of any underground drain, are enforced by the Sanitary Inspector's Department, and all such work is inspected and approved by the Sanitary Inspectors before being covered in.

No. of inspections and tests carried out in connection with the repair of, alteration to, or addition to, drains	634
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SHOPS ACT, 1950.

No. of inspections carried out under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 1,410

The provisions were generally well complied with.

No. of Notices served in respect of defaults under the provisions....	1
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CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During the year considerable time was devoted to the inspection of tents, sheds, etc., used for human habitation.

There is one licensed site within the County Borough area.

The licence in respect of one caravan used as a dwelling was renewed during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employ two Rodent Control Operatives to deal with rat and mouse infestation. The work is carried out free of charge, with the exception that occupiers of business premises, factories and work-places are required to pay for the cost of materials and labour.

Rodent Control work in respect of the sewers is the responsibility of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

During the course of sewer-baiting, the Rodent Control staff carried out systematic inspections of properties adjacent to the sewers undergoing treatment and it was found that the sewer work had a very marked beneficial effect upon the infestations discovered in surface properties.

Many surface infestations have been remedied throughout the Borough by means of the repair or reconstruction of defective drainage systems.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The above-mentioned Act which came into force on the 31st March, 1950, revoked the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The new Act places the onus on Local Authorities to take such steps as may be necessary to secure as far as practicable that their Districts are kept free from rats and mice, and in particular to carry out inspections from time to time, to destroy rats and mice on land occupied by Local Authorities, and to enforce the duties of owners and occupiers of land regarding rodent infestation. Occupiers of land infested by substantial numbers of rats or mice are legally bound to notify the local authority thereof in writing. The Act places the onus of disinfection of land upon the owner or occupier thereof and provides for the service of notice upon the owner or occupier by the Local Authority, requiring him to take specific action within a specified time for the eradication of rats and mice, and empowers the Local Authority to carry out such work in default, and to recover the cost thereof from the said owner or occupier.

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the provisions of the Act and covers the period from 1st January, 1953 to 31st March, 1954.

	Type of Property				
	Local Author- ity (1)	Dwell- ing Houses (2)	Agri- cultural (3)	All other (including business premises) (4)	Total (5)
Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	(a) 21	203	....	41	265
	(b) 38	193	25	122	378
	(c) 6	155	....	478	639
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats.	Major 3	4	....	7	14
	Minor 7	71	....	11	89
Number of properties inspected which were found to be seriously infested by mice.	18	108	....	29	155
Number of infested properties created by the Local Authority.	28	183	....	47	266
Number of "block" control schemes carried out.	15				

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No. of visits of enquiry and inspection re cases of Infectious Disease 265
Disinfection of premises and effects was carried out where necessary.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

No. of visits of inspection in relation to applications of persons for the retention of their names in the Authority's List of persons entitled to sell poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List 53

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

FEEDING STUFFS

6 informal and 7 formal samples of feeding stuffs were submitted for analysis during the year.

The analyst reported that 2 informal and 3 formal samples did not comply with the necessary Statutory Statement for the respective products.

In each case the Town Clerk was authorised to send warning letters to the respective manufacturers.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of visits paid to Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Pasteurising Depots 346

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, and revoked the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926 to 1943. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries became responsible for the registration of dairy farms and of persons carrying on or proposing to carry on the trade of dairy farmer.

The execution and enforcement of the regulations on dairy farms (except in so far as they relate to diseases Communicable to Man) became from 1st October, 1949, the responsibility of the said Minister, while Local Authorities retain responsibility for those provisions which apply outside dairy farms, for the provisions relating to diseases Communicable to Man, for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms, and for the registration of dairymen and distributors of Milk.

No. of Registered Dairies in the Borough..... 56

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

These Regulations re-enact with amendments the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1948.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, provide that Licences to producers to use any special designation shall be granted by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, while Local Authorities will continue to grant Licences to dealers to use special designations in respect of milk sold by them.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, provide for a new special designation "Sterilised Milk." Licences in respect of Pasteurising and Sterilising establishments will be issued by the Food and Drugs Authorities, and Local Authorities will continue to be responsible for all other Licences connected with these designated milks.

All fees for Licences have been dispensed with under the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

PASTEURISED MILK.

No. of samples taken	75
No. satisfactory in all respects	74
No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	1
No. unsatisfactory on Phosphatase Test	Nil
No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	Nil
No. of Licensed Milk Pasteurisers in the Borough :—	
H.T.S.T.	2

TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED) MILK.

No. of samples taken	24
No. satisfactory in all respects	24
No. of Licensed Pasteurisers of Tuberculin-Tested Milk in the Borough :—	
H.T.S.T. Process	1

TUBERCULIN-TESTED MILK (PRODUCED WITHIN THE BOROUGH)

No. of samples taken	13
No. satisfactory on both Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests	10
No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	1
No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	2

TUBERCULIN-TESTED MILK (PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH).

No. of samples taken	21
No. satisfactory on both Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests	12
No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	5
No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	6

ORDINARY MILK (PRODUCED WITHIN THE BOROUGH)

No. of samples taken	4
No. satisfactory in all respects	1
No. unsatisfactory on Plate Count Test	2
No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	1
No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	3

ORDINARY MILK (PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH).

No. of samples taken	21
No. satisfactory in all respects	6
No. unsatisfactory on Plate Count Test	10
No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	9
No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	8

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

Total No. of bulk samples of Milk submitted for animal inoculation test	57
Total No. of bulk samples of Milk showing the presence of B. Tuberculosis	Nil

The sampling of milk for submission to the Animal Inoculation Test for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli had to be considerably curtailed owing to the shortage of guinea pigs.

THE ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS 1947 and 1948.

The administration of these Regulations was fully carried out and repeated visits of inspection to premises where ice-cream is manufactured and/or sold showed that, following advice and explanation given by the Inspectors, the provisions were being well complied with.

No. of inspections of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured and/or sold	465
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BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM

During the year, samples of Ice-Cream were obtained from the various premises registered for its manufacture and/or sale, and were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test recommended by the Ministry of Health. Details of the samples and the results of the tests are as follows :—

No. of samples of Ice-Cream submitted	9
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The results of the tests show that the samples were classified as follows :—

Grade 1	7 samples
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Grade 2	1 sample
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Grade 3	1 sample
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Following detailed investigation regarding the two samples which were classified Grade 2 and Grade 3 respectively, repeat samples were obtained and the results showed each sample to be classified in Grade 1.

FOOD PREMISES.

During the year, routine visits of inspection were carried out regularly of all types of food premises including shops, food factories and warehouses, restaurant and hotel kitchens, canteens, ice-cream manufacturers' and dealers' premises, butchers' shops, market stalls and the Cold Stores. Inspections were also carried out of vehicles used for the transport of meat and other foodstuffs.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out and action taken in connection with food premises.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

No. of premises registered during the year under Section 14 in connection with the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	1
Total No. of such premises on the register	111
No. of premises registered during the year in connection with the manufacture or sale of Ice-Cream	21
Total No. of such premises on the register	188
No. of inspections of food premises	2,540
No. of written Notices served under the provisions of Section 13 of the Act	29

The above-mentioned Notices, which relate mainly to the repair and cleansing of walls, ceilings, floors, windows, and doors, the provision and maintenance of suitable and sufficient means of ventilation, the provision of washing basins and supply of hot water for the use of persons employed in food premises, were all complied with.

Special attention was paid to personal hygiene in respect of persons engaged in food handling and preparation, and in this connection a high standard has been maintained.

BYELAWS.

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption, were in operation.

The said Byelaws were strictly enforced and much informal action taken, the results of which were satisfactory.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924

No. of inspections of butchers' shops, meat stalls and the Cold Stores 257

The Regulations continue to be well complied with generally, and only informal action was necessary where any default was found.

The provisions of the Regulations in regard to the transport of meat have been carried out satisfactorily.

MEAT INSPECTION.

NUMBERS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIRS.

Year.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
1951	4268	2552	10914	2182	19916
1952	3294	2632	13322	2905	22153
1953	3394	2838	13120	3639	22991
Increase	100	206	—	734	838
Decrease	—	—	202	—	—

NUMBER OF WHOLE CARCASSES WITH OFFALS CONDEMNED.

Year.	Beef	Veal	Mutton	Pork	Total.
1951	81	120	49	24	274
1952	76	140	51	52	319
1953	48	48	46	37	179
Increase	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease	28	92	5	15	140

The total weight of meat condemned at the Abattoirs during the year was :—46 tons, 5 cwts, 0 qtr, 20 lbs.

UNSOUND MEAT : CARCASSES AND PART CARCASSES CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

Disease	Beef lbs.	Veal lbs.	Mutton lbs.	Pork lbs.	Total. lbs.
Tuberculosis	19860	191	—	2411	22462
Other Conditions	7214	1833	1698	5277	16022
	<u>27074</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>1698</u>	<u>7688</u>	<u>38484</u>

UN SOUND VISCERA CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

Disease	Beef lbs.	Veal lbs.	Mutton lbs.	Pork lbs.	Total lbs.
Tuberculosis	20326	51	—	5048	25425
Other Conditions	30802	378	6313	2218	39711
	<u>51128</u>	<u>429</u>	<u>6313</u>	<u>7266</u>	<u>65136</u>

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3394	2838	13120	3639
Number Inspected	3394	2838	13120	3639
All diseases except Tuberculosis, Whole carcasses condemned	13	41	46	29
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned	2257	1	3904	423
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	66.88	1.47	30.1	12.42
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	35	7	....	8
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned	1101	....	....	288
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	33.47	.24	....	7.9

All condemned meat was disposed of by the Ministry of Food to a firm of by-product manufacturers at Kendal.

MEAT INSPECTED AFTER DELIVERY TO THE ABATTOIRS FROM OTHER MINISTRY OF FOOD DEPOTS OUTSIDE THE COUNTY BOROUGH AREA.

29 Beef Carcasses, 3 Calf Carcasses, 75 Sheep Carcasses, 1,954 Pig Carcasses, 1,020 Pigs' Plucks, 760 lbs. Pigs' Kidneys, 5 Beast Offals and 57 Sheep Offals.

IMPORTED MEAT CONDEMNED

2,251½ lbs. of Beef. 57 lbs. of Lamb. 84 lbs. of Lambs' Livers.

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES

During the year, 4 cases of congenital Tuberculosis in calves have been found on post mortem examination at the Abattoirs. Notification was sent in each case to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and appropriate action taken, resulting in the dams of 3 of the calves being dealt with by slaughter under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. The dam of the remaining calf was untraceable.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS

The gathering of Cockles and Mussels from Walney Channel is prohibited by an Order made in 1918, and the gathering of Periwinkles is prohibited by an Order made in 1948.



EXTERNAL VIEW OFF SIDE



WAITING ROOM



DOCTOR'S ROOM LOOKING FORWARD



NURSE'S ROOM LOOKING FORWARD

Following the receipt of representations made by the Lancashire and Western Sea Fisheries Joint Committee who requested the Corporation to consider freeing certain specified areas in Walney Channel from the prohibition regarding the gathering of Periwinkles for sale for human consumption, a series of samples were taken from those areas and adjacent areas for bacteriological examination. At the end of the year the matter was still under consideration.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938 and 1950 RELATING TO SAMPLES OF FOOD ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR, 1953

MILK

6 Formal samples of milk produced within the Borough were taken on delivery to a local dairy and were reported by the Public Analyst to be adulterated or below the legal standard in the following manner :

3 samples contained added water to the extent of 10%, 5% and 3% respectively, whilst the remaining 3 samples were stated to be of abnormal composition in the following manner : deficient of solids not fat to the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}\%$, 2% and 5% respectively.

8 " Appeal to Cow " samples were taken at the farm and were reported by the Public Analyst to be adulterated or below the legal standard, one of the samples was reported to contain added water to the extent of 3%, whilst the remaining 7 samples were reported to be milk of abnormal composition. The producer was warned in respect of the adulteration, and advice was given regarding the abnormal composition of the milk.

1 Formal sample of milk was taken at a dairy situated outside the Borough and was reported by the Public Analyst to contain 15% of added water. Legal proceedings were instituted against the Producer/Vendor of the milk.

2 informal samples of milk taken on delivery to a local dairy from a source outside the Borough were reported by the Public Analyst to be milk of abnormal composition. This information was forwarded to the Lancashire County Medical Officer of Health, Preston, for further investigation.

ICE LOLLIES

4 informal samples of Ice Lollies were taken at the Manufacturer's premises, and were reported by the Public Analyst to contain lead in from 2 to 4 parts per million. Further follow-on samples were taken from the same premises at the different stages of manufacture to trace the source of lead. 4 samples of Diluted Sweetened Fruit Juice taken direct from the metal dilution tanks were upon analysis reported to contain lead in from 2 to 8 parts per million.

The use of metal dilution tanks, being the cause of the lead contamination, was immediately discontinued.

Samples of Ice Lollies taken from the different Manufacturers and submitted for analysis were reported by the Public Analyst to contain lead in proportions exceeding 1 part per million respectively. The lead contamination was again directly attributable to the use of metal moulds during the process of manufacture. The use of metal moulds was discontinued.

One sample upon analysis was reported by the Public Analyst to contain .29% Phosphoric Acid. The Manufacturer of the Ice Lollies immediately agreed to discontinue the use of this product.

BUTTERSCOTCH FINGERS

One informal sample of Butterscotch Fingers manufactured outside the Borough was submitted for analysis and was reported by the Public Analyst to be deficient of butter fat to the extent of 25%. A Formal sample of this product was later purchased and was reported by the Public Analyst to be satisfactory.

No. of Samples Analysed			Description of Sample	No. of Samples Genuine			No. of Samples adulterated or not up to standard.		
Formal	Informal	Total		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
18	86	104	Milk	3	84	87	15	2	17
3	2	5	Beef Sausage	2	1	3	1	1	2
1	—	1	Pork Sausage	—	—	—	1	—	1
—	5	5	Ice Cream	—	5	—	—	—	—
—	23	23	Ice Lollies	—	15	15	—	8	8
—	4	4	Sweetened Fruit Juice	—	2	2	—	2	2
—	4	4	Diluted Sweetened Fruit Juice	—	—	—	—	4	4
2	—	2	Malt Vinegar	2	—	2	—	—	—
—	1	1	Coffee	—	1	1	—	—	—
—	1	1	Suet Dumpling Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
—	2	2	Bronchial Preparation	—	2	2	—	—	—
—	2	2	Vitamin Preparation	—	2	2	—	—	—
1	—	1	Fish Cakes	1	—	1	—	—	—
2	—	2	Meat and Potato Pie	2	—	2	—	—	—
1	—	1	Pork Pie	1	—	1	—	—	—
1	—	1	Lemon Curd	1	—	1	—	—	—
1	—	1	Cream	1	—	1	—	—	—
—	3	3	Glace Cherries	—	3	3	—	—	—
—	2	2	Dessicated Coconut	—	2	2	—	—	—
—	3	3	Sugar Confectionery	—	2	2	—	1	1
—	3	3	Ground Almonds	—	3	3	—	—	—
—	2	2	Mince-meat	—	2	2	—	—	—
—	3	3	Saccharin Tablets	—	3	3	—	—	—
—	1	1	Dried Egg	—	1	1	—	—	—
—	3	3	Gelatine	—	3	3	—	—	—
—	2	2	Shredded Beef Suet	—	2	2	—	—	—
—	3	3	Sultanas	—	3	3	—	—	—
—	1	1	Currants	—	1	1	—	—	—
30	156	186		13	138	151	17	18	35

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following articles of food dealt with by Authorised Officers under the Food and Drugs Act, have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed or otherwise disposed of according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Food in connection with the salvage of Unfit Food.

SUMMARY OF FOOD DESTROYED AT THE REFUSE DESTRUCTOR
DURING 1953

Tins of Meat	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,437
Tins of Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,464
Tins of Vegetable	....	....	....	....	....	....	771
Tins of Fish	....	....	....	....	....	....	174
Tins of Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	667
Tins of Soup	....	....	....	....	....	....	300
Tins of Patent Foods	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Tins of Animal Food	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Tins of Mustard	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Tins of Water Glass	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Tins of Pudding	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Tins of Ovaltine	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tins and Jars of Preserves	....	....	....	....	....	....	28
Tins and Jars of Cream	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Tins and Jars of Fish Paste	....	....	....	....	....	....	74
Jars of Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	....	53
Jars of Red Cabbage	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Jars of Pickles	....	....	....	....	....	....	39
Jars of Sandwich Spread	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Jars of Salad Cream	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Jars of Beef and Veg. Extract	....	....	....	....	....	....	24
Jars of Peanut Butter	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Jars of Marmite	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Jars of Bourn-Vita	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Bottles of Sauce	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
Bottles of Coffee	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
Bottles of Lemon Squash	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Packets of Suet	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Packets of Nuts	....	....	....	....	....	....	54
Packets of Vita Wheat...	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Packets of Dripping	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Fish Cakes	....	....	....	....	....	....	108
Jellies	....	....	....	....	....	....	214
Eggs	....	....	....	....	....	....	644
Chocolate Teacakes	....	....	....	....	....	....	254
					Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Bacon and Ham	....	....	....	....	5	2	3
Fish	....	....	....	....	4	1	16
Sausages	....	....	....	....	2	—	13
Turkeys	....	....	....	....	2	—	1

Sausage	2	—	—
Cooked Meats	1	3	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rabbits	1	2	6
Cake	1	1	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chicken		2	27
Pigs Maws		2	24
Pudding Mixtures, Etc.		2	13
Cooking Fat		2	11
Cheese		2	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sultanas		2	4
Frozen Egg		2	—
Geese		1	17
Preservative Powder		1	13
Biscuits		1	11
Confections		1	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Macaroon Paste		1	4
Dessert Powder		1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour			22
Ground Rice			17
Salt			12
Grouse			10
Kidney Beans			8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Figs			8
Icing Sugar			7
Lentils			7
Wood Pigeon			7
Barley			4
Tea			2
Breakfast Oats			1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tapioca			1

FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION BUT SALVAGED AND
DISPOSED OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MINISTRY
OF FOOD.

	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Bacon and Ham	2	—	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cooked Meats	1	—	15 $\frac{1}{2}$

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	38	53	1	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	217	265	2	Nil.
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	23	29	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL	278	347	3	Nil.

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	...	...	...
Overcrowding (S.2.)	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	...	...	...	...	...
(a) Insufficient	1	1	...	1	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	...	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	...	1	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	5	5	...	2	...

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (making, etc.)	2	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	—	—	—	—

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

ADMINISTRATION.

The Medical Officer of Health acts under the direction of the Health Committee as administrative officer for the Authority's Part III Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946. He directs and co-ordinates the work of the Health Department which is discharged through specialised sections. Control and Supervision over their respective sections are exercised by the Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare work, the Chief Dental Officer, the Superintendent Nursing Officer, the Superintendent District Nurse and the Ambulance Officer.

CO-ORDINATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Interlocking membership exists between the Local Health Authority, the Hospital Management Committee and the Executive Council. In addition, the Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Hospital Management Committee, the Medical Advisory Committee, the Executive Council, the Local Medical Committee and the Area Liaison Committee. Close co-operation exists between the administrative staffs of the Public Health Department, the Hospitals and the Hospital Management Committee and the Executive Council. In view of the compactness of the population involved, arrangements for co-operation are developed on an ad hoc basis as required. The specific arrangements for securing co-operation in the treatment of patients at hospitals or by general practitioners are described in subsequent paragraphs and are working smoothly and efficiently.

General Practitioners are informed by letter of new services made available or of changes in existing services. Information is disseminated to the public through field workers and allied social workers, at clinics and the central Public Health Office, and via the agency of the Press.

JOINT USE OF STAFF.

No general practitioners are employed by the Local Health Authority. Detailed arrangements regarding joint use of staff are dealt with under Particular Services. These arrangements appertain to Tuberculosis, Orthopaedics, Obstetrics and Ophthalmics.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

With the exception of arrangements made for unmarried mothers none of the Authority's duties is discharged through the agency of voluntary bodies.

PARTICULAR SERVICES.

SECTION 22—CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

(a) EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Every pregnant woman can have ante-natal care free of charge from a doctor of her choice. This service is provided under arrangements made by the Executive Council,

The Authority maintains an ante-natal clinic to which any midwife can bring her cases. The clinic, which is situated in the grounds of Risedale Maternity Hospital, is conducted by the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, and is staffed by the Municipal Midwives. The Obstetric Consultant from Risedale Maternity Hospital is available to see abnormal cases. This arrangement provides the interchange of information necessary for the proper care and after care of expectant and nursing mothers. Each week there are three sessions, one of which is held for new cases. All new cases are routinely referred to the Pathological Laboratory for blood testing. By arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee the post-natal clinic, held in the same premises as the ante-natal, is available for midwives' cases.

Patients also receive ante-natal supervision in their own homes.

Instruction in mothercraft is conducted informally by Health Visitors and Midwives while interviewing individual expectant or nursing mothers.

No discrimination is made against the unmarried mother to whom are open all the facilities provided by the Authority. In addition, arrangements are made in suitable cases for the confinement to take place at the Maternity Home, St. Monica, Kendal, which provides for the mother's bodily needs and also gives rehabilitative training. Close co-operation is maintained with the local social worker of the Furness Association for Social and Moral Welfare and with other workers.

(b) CHILD WELFARE

The Child Welfare Clinic is staffed by a Medical Officer and three Health Visitors on each of the five afternoon sessions held every week and clerical assistance is provided. The continued movement of population to new housing estates on the outskirts of the town has had an adverse effect on clinic attendances, and to meet this problem a mobile Child Welfare Clinic has been completed and was inaugurated in September, 1953.

It is the first fully mobile clinic in any English town. An old omnibus was purchased from the Transport Department which carried out the work of conversion to a clinic according to plans and specifications prepared in the Health Department.

The staff consists of a Doctor, a District Health Visitor and one of the Public Health Department's Ambulance Drivers. Five afternoon clinic sessions per week are held at five different sites. The idea is proving popular, mothers find it easier to attend the clinic, and the children are having the benefit of the mobile clinic service which is similar to that of the static central clinic.

Health Visitors pay a birth visit and subsequently one visit at each month until six months. Visits thereafter are of necessity less frequent, but all children are kept under supervision until they reach the age of five years. Special visits are paid as necessary.

An Assistant Medical Officer engaged in Child Welfare work attends a Paediatric Clinic to gain specialised experience, held weekly at the North Lonsdale Hospital by a visiting Paediatrician. In addition liaison with the Paediatric service of the Regional Hospital Board has been established in that a Health Visitor attends each out patient session at the North Lonsdale Hospital. It is thus intended to provide the Paediatrician with details of home background and in return gain the information necessary to undertake domiciliary supervision of specialist advice and treatment.

Children seen by Assistant Medical Officers and considered to be in need of specialist advice or treatment are sent in the first instance to their family doctors and copies of resulting hospital reports are usually given to the Public Health Department.

By arrangement with the Barrow Executive Council, Dr. H. C. Kodilinye, engaged by the Local Authority on a part time basis, conducts Ophthalmic Clinics held at Arndene, Abbey Road.

In conjunction with the specialist orthopaedic clinic conducted by an orthopaedic specialist employed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and held every six weeks at the Child Welfare Clinic, a physiotherapist devotes three sessions each week to children under five. At these sessions cases referred by the medical staff or from the orthopaedic clinic are given massage or remedial exercises. An ultra violet ray therapy clinic in charge of a physiotherapist is available at the Child Welfare Clinic for two sessions weekly to children referred by the medical staff.

(c) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature babies requiring hospital treatment are dealt with at Risedale Maternity Hospital. A special heated basket for transporting the baby is loaned by the hospital and the Authority's ambulance service provides a conveyance.

The Municipal Midwives have all had instruction in the care of premature babies and any special appliances required can be borrowed from Risedale Maternity Hospital.

All Midwives are required to send notification of premature babies to the Medical Officer of Health and arrangements are made for an early follow up by the Health Visitors. This arrangement includes institutional births.

(d) WELFARE FOODS SCHEME.

A Child Welfare Food shop occupying separate premises from the Child Welfare Clinic and managed by Health Department staff is situated in Cavenish Square.

The shop is available to any mother whose baby, as shown by its weight card, regularly attends the Child Welfare Clinic and has been weighed within the last four weeks. The shop carries a large and varied stock of proprietary infant foods and in addition supplies National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice and Vitamin Tablets.

It is estimated that only 38% of Barrow mothers use the Welfare Food Service and so during the year civic backing was given to a campaign to publicise welfare foods.

(e) DENTAL CARE

The Dental Clinic is situated in the same premises as the Child Welfare Clinic. Approximately one and a half sessions per week are devoted to the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five. This service is all that is necessary at the present time to meet the demands made upon it.

(f) OTHER PROVISION.

Close co-operation exists between the Public Health Department and the various other workers in the field of Children's Welfare, in particular the Local Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., the Probation Officers, the Area Children's Officer and the Diocesan Social Worker.

No Adoption Society is located in Barrow but the Public Health Department maintains contact and works with the Children's Department, which notifies to the Medical Officer of Health the names and addresses of potential adopters, so that visits by a Health Visitor can be arranged and the suitability of conditions assessed. Close supervision is maintained during the trial period before confirmation of the Adoption Order.

Child Life Protection is the responsibility of the Children's Committee but foster children are supervised by the Health Visitors in the normal course of their duties.

SECTION 23—DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

There is an establishment of 11 midwives controlled by the Superintendent Nursing Officer. The Local Health Authority is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts and a Medical Officer is deputed to act as Medical Supervisor of Midwives, non medical supervision being by the Superintendent Nursing Officer, in this connection, visits being made to the Authority's domiciliary and to private midwives alike.

A Minnitt's Gas-Air Analgesia Apparatus is available for each midwife. Any patient medically suitable can have this aid. Arrangements for conveyance of the apparatus are made in each case. A sterilised accouchement set is provided free for each patient.

The arrangements for clinic and home ante-natal supervision have already been dealt with.

Where the patient is unsuitable on medical grounds or because of unsuitable home conditions for a domiciliary confinement, it is usually possible to arrange for a hospital confinement. The midwives are available to act as maternity nurses where a patient wishes to be confined by her own doctor.

The Authority regularly sends midwives for a refresher course but has no arrangements for training pupil midwives as no Part II Training School exists in the Borough.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING.

The Superintendent Nursing Officer who was in charge of an establishment of 10 Health Visitors left for another appointment in February and the vacancy remained unfilled throughout the remainder of the year. In addition to visiting routinely expectant and nursing mothers and young children, the Health Visitors call upon children under 5 who have been notified as cases of pneumonia, measles or whooping cough. Frequent visits are made in cases of a miscellaneous nature especially in regard to the aged. The work of prevention care and after care is performed by all Health Visitors and additionally one of them devotes her whole visiting time to this work in connection with the tuberculous population and their households. This nurse also assists at the local Chest Clinic of the Regional Hospital Board.

Each year some of the Health Visitors attend refresher courses arranged by the Royal College of Nursing, the Women Public Health Officers Association and other bodies, each Health Visitor receiving this training at least once every five years.

The Local Authority has a scheme of assisted training for suitable nurses desiring to obtain the Health Visitor's Certificate.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING.

The existing establishment is maintained by the employment of part time staff but most of the Home Nurses are full time and residential. The Superintendent has her headquarters at the Home at 2, Fairfield Lane, where most of the resident staff are located. There is also a two-nurse Home at 27, Mikasa Street, Walney. Eight cars are available for use and staff for whom no car is available walk or cycle.

The services of a Home Nurse are provided on medical recommendation only. The nurse co-operating with the general practitioner makes a morning visit as often as the condition of the case demands and in severe cases evening visits are also paid. There is no night nurse.

The main types of cases dealt with are medical (65%), surgical (30%) and others (notably gynaecological and tubercular).

Each year some of the District Nurses attend residential refresher courses arranged by the Queen's Institute or other recognised authorities, the arrangements being such that each nurse receives this training at least once every five years.

The Local Authority has accepted a scheme whereby certain State Registered Nurses are nominated for Queen's training at approved training centres.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The Local Authority provides facilities for immunisation against diphtheria and for vaccination on a voluntary basis. Children under one receive vaccination and primary diphtheria immunisation but parents are constantly encouraged by Health Visitors in the clinic and home to take advantage of these facilities. Organised effort is made to give each child primarily immunised a re-inforcing prophylactic injection at the age of 5.

General practitioners who participate in the arrangements undertake vaccination and immunisation in their surgeries or in the home.

At the Child Welfare Clinic two sessions each week are devoted exclusively to vaccination and immunisation. An assistant Medical Officer and a Health Visitor are on duty and clerical assistance is provided. Cases receive attention with or without appointment.

From September, 1953, the service was extended to include immunisation against whooping cough and parents have been quick to request "combined" prophylactics for their children.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Chief Fire Officer acts as Ambulance Officer and is in charge of an ambulance fleet of six vehicles. A new ambulance garage has been constructed. The ambulance used for infectious cases is staffed by personnel from the Infectious Diseases Hospital and is garaged at that hospital. The ambulance can be summoned for removals by doctors, nurses and midwives, but a medical certificate is required before an out of town journey is authorised. Abuse of the service is limited as much as possible by close supervision of calls and is rare, although more prevalent in cases attending regularly at the out patient departments. Cars required for the mental health service are hired from local taxi proprietors.

As the main hospital centre is 100 miles from Barrow and it is often necessary to send ambulances to places at an even greater distance, dual purpose vehicles are more useful. During the year three ambulances were fitted with radio telephones.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Provision of advice and assistance, nursing requisites, home visiting and co-operation with Industrial Medical Officers, Disablement Rehabilitation Officers and the National Assistance Board's Officers has continued throughout the year. As the Tuberculosis Health Visitor acts as clinic nurse there has been no difficulty in maintaining adequate liaison.

Arrangements exist for the protection of suitable contacts of tuberculous cases with B.C.G. vaccine.

OTHER ILLNESS.

The Health Visitors advise and assist in cases referred by hospitals and general practitioners. Residential accommodation is provided by arrangement with the Governors of Infield Convalescent Home.

LOAN CUPBOARDS.

This service is available to all bed patients nursed at home and sick room equipment such as bed pans, bed rests, fracture cages, rubber sheeting, air rings, may be loaned in any case where need exists. A limited number of wheel chairs for convalescent patients is also available. Applications are received at the Nurses' Home.

GENERAL.

The services of Domestic Helps and District Nurses are provided in suitable cases.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In addition to verbal instruction and advice given by the staff suitable posters are displayed in places frequented by the public. Campaigns are conducted in schools and at clinics. Two major film shows were held for Head Teachers and Student Nurses at the Central Clinic, the subjects being Personal Hygiene and Cross Infection. Student Nurses are given every opportunity to see the public health services in action.

The local press co-operates in publishing items to which it is considered the public attention should be drawn. Notifications are received from the local general hospital of admissions of cases of burns and scalds. Such cases under the age of five are visited in their own homes by Health Visitors.

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP.

The Superintendent Nursing Officer and Health Visitors undertake most of the field work in connection with the service. Helps are provided mainly in cases of confinement, illness of housewife or to infirm old people, but applications are occasionally received from other categories of person whose cases, on investigation, are found to come within the scope of the scheme. This is not a free service and charges are recovered according to the means of the applicant.

The names of persons suitable for this kind of work are registered and listed. Helps are allocated to cases as applications are received. This system works satisfactorily and it has not been found necessary to pay a retaining fee, as cases can usually be arranged so that helps have very little idle time.

SECTION 51—MENTAL HEALTH.

ADMINISTRATION.

COMMITTEE. The Health Committee, which comprises Council Members and co-opted representatives of the local medical profession, meets at monthly intervals to deal with matters affecting Mental Health.

STAFF. This section of the Department is staffed by two male Duly Authorised Officers. The vacancy for a female Psychiatric Social Worker remains unfilled. Administration and clerical duties are undertaken by the general office staff. The Assistant Medical Officers provide the medical assistance needed, and it is also possible to have assistance in certification from local practitioners. The visiting specialists from Lancaster Moor Hospital conduct a weekly out-patient clinic and in addition are available for consultation as required.

CO-ORDINATION. The Authority's Officers undertake the supervision of and reporting on cases on trial for licence or on licence and in addition prepare any other reports of home conditions, etc., required by Hospitals and Institutions.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS. There are no voluntary organisations dealing with mental health in the area.

TRAINING OF STAFF. Within the last four years one of the Duly Authorised Officers has attended a training course.

ACCOUNT OF WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER CARE. All Health Visitors are alive to the special problems presented by the mentally ill and in the course of their duties give appropriate advice to those threatened with, suffering from, or recovering from mental illness. They refer details to the Mental Health section when necessary. They also advise those having custody of defective children. Concurrently the Authority's Medical and Lay Visiting Officers maintain supervision over cases under domiciliary care or on licence. Appropriate advice and assistance is given and arrangements are made for financial assistance to be granted by the National Assistance Board where applicable. New cases coming to the notice of the Authority's staff are immediately referred for specialist advice so that the condition may be dealt with in its early stages.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS, 1890—1930. The Manchester Regional Hospital Board prohibits the admission of cases direct to Roose Hospital which is considered to be an annexe to Lancaster Moor Hospital. All cases are removed to Lancaster nearly 50 miles away in the first instance and this imposes a burden both on the Duly Authorised Officers and on the Ambulance Service.

Under the Lunacy Act, 1890, the Duly Authorised Officers issue three day orders, detaining persons of unsound mind in hospital, prepare summary reception orders and remove patients to mental hospitals. In addition the Duly Authorised Officers assist with arrangements for the treatment of voluntary and temporary patients. Case histories and reports on home conditions are prepared for the hospitals. Cases on licence etc., are supervised.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913—1938. Through the agency of the Duly Authorised Officers, field workers of the Public Health Department and of other social services and general practitioners, suspect mental defectives are brought to the notice of the Department. The majority of cases ascertained to be mental defectives are however reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57 Education Act, 1944. Mental defectives receive statutory or voluntary supervision in their own homes and are visited routinely by a Duly Authorised Officer and an Assistant Medical Officer. Guardianship cases are similarly supervised. Suitable cases are placed on the waiting list for institutions. No provision exists as yet for the occupation or training of defectives.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. The general ambulance service is available for mental cases. Where necessary, one of the Authority's Duly Authorised Officers travels with the ambulance or car, and arrangements exist whereby mental nurses can be borrowed from Roose Hospital to accompany female or difficult patients.

HEALTH CENTRES.

No proposals for the provision of Health Centres have been made and in Barrow, there is no demand for the comprehensive centre envisaged by the Act.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

WELFARE CENTRE.

There has been a slight increase in the Birth Rate.

637 babies under 12 months and 61 older children were admitted to the register ; whilst of the cases on the register, 6,529 attendances were made by the babies, 1,223 attendances were made by the one year olds and 832 attendances were made by children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

MOBILE CLINIC

In addition to the foregoing, 122 babies under 12 months and 57 older children were admitted to the register at the Mobile Clinic during the last three months of the year, and at that clinic 999 attendances were made by the babies, 211 attendances were made by the one year olds and 195 attendances were made by children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

PREMATURE BABIES

During the year 73 premature babies were born alive, including 56 whose mothers usually reside within the area. 16 were born at home. The 8 who were retained at home all survived, 8 were transferred to hospital, and one of these died in the first 24 hours and 2 died between the first day and the month end. Of the 57 born in hospital 3 died in the first 24 hours, 11 more died before the month end and the remaining 43 survived.

PREMATURE BIRTHS.

	Died in 24 hours.	Died 1 day 1 month.	Survived 1 month.	Total.
Born at home and retained at home ....	....	....	8	8
Born at home and transferred to Hospital	1	2	5	8
Born in Hospital ...	3	11	43	57
Total	4	13	56	73
No. whose mothers usually reside in area	....	....	....	56

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 29.87 per 1,000 births is the lowest yet recorded. The figures for the last 10 years are :

1944	....	....	....	60.51
1945	....	....	....	58.4
1946	....	....	....	52.91
1947	....	....	....	51.45
1948	....	....	....	49.52
1949	....	....	....	49.33
1950	....	....	....	45.20
1951	....	....	....	35.56
1952	....	....	....	37.83
1953	....	....	....	29.87

The 28 deaths from developmental defects include 9 malformations, 5 birth injury and 14 from other diseases peculiar to the first year of life. The remaining 8 deaths arose from 6 respiratory, 1 general condition and 1 accident.

HEALTH VISITING.

The following table shows the work done in connection with mothers and children :—

(i) To expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	First visits	675
	....	....	....	....	Total visits	938
(ii) To children under 1 year of age	....	....	....	....	First visits	1095
	....	....	....	....	Total visits	9441
(iii) To children between 1 and 2 years of age	....	....	....	....	Total visits	5897
		
(iv) To children between 2 and 5 years of age	....	....	....	....	Total visits	8366
		

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

During the year 6 cases were admitted to St Monica.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

78 children made 161 attendances and spectacles were prescribed in 34 cases.

The following is a classification of the conditions for which children attended the clinic.

Refractions—

Hypermetropic Astigmatism	....	....	....	5
Hypermetropia	....	....	....	8
Other Conditions	....	....	....	6

Squints—

Convergent	....	....	....	31
Alternating	....	....	....	1

Treatments—

Dacryocystitis	....	....	....	18
Conjunctivitis	....	....	....	1
Other Conditions	....	....	....	8

DENTAL TREATMENT.

During the year 76 sessions were devoted to the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5. 496 attendances were made by expectant and nursing mothers and 490 by children under 5.

The Council has no workshop for producing dentures, but the work is carried out by local mechanics.

It was not necessary to refer any patients for X-ray, although facilities are available at North Lonsdale Hospital.

The following tables show the work done :—

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	144	138	146	112
Children under 5	246	220	220	211

	Ex-trac-tions	Anaesthetics		Fill-ings	Scal-ing & gum treat-ment	Silver Nit-rate treat-ment	Dress-ings	X Rays	Dentures Provided	
		Local	Gen-eral						Com-plete	Part-ial
Expectant and Nursing mothers	321	196	9	107	35	....	24	....	13	18
Children under 5	160	76	57	9	....	332	10	....	....	....

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

79 children made 136 attendances on the 8 occasions on which the clinic was held.

64 children visited the Physiotherapist on 525 occasions for fitting of splints, plasters, etc.

MASSAGE AND REMEDIAL EXERCISES CLINICS.

21 patients attended for massage and made 543 attendances.

26 patients had remedial exercises in 277 attendances.

1 patient had radiant heat treatment in 89 attendances.

SUN RAY.

During the year 59 children under 5 made 588 attendances.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

228 patients made 919 attendances in the year.

MIDWIFERY.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

It has only just been possible to maintain the number of staff at an adequate level to meet the demands of the service.

PRIVATE MIDWIVES.

3 private nurses notified their intention to practice as Midwives or Maternity Nurses but only 1 of them undertook any confinements.

The following table of domiciliary confinements shows that the Municipal Midwives attended in 99% of the cases.

Municipal—Midwives cases	....	....	....	....	....	158	} 444
Maternity Nurses cases	....	....	....	....	....	286	
Gas-Air administered	....	....	....	....	....	396	
Private—	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.

The Medical Officer deputed to act as Supervisor of Midwives paid 60 visits in this connection. There were no irregularities necessitating proceedings.

Medical Aid was summoned in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board in 43 cases. Two of these were cases who had booked a General Practitioner Obstetrician under arrangements of the Barrow Executive Council.

HOME NURSING.

36,486 visits were paid to 1,641 patients.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 239 persons have been vaccinated and 51 have been re-vaccinated under clinic arrangements. A further 186 vaccinations and 67 re-vaccinations have been reported by general practitioners.

No case of smallpox has been reported.

288 courses of immunisation against Diphtheria and 260 re-inforcing doses were administered at the clinic and 164 courses of immunisation and 13 re-inforcing doses were reported by General Practitioners.

20 whooping cough immunisations and 33 combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunisations were completed at the clinics.

No case of diphtheria was confirmed.

40.32% of the population under 5 and 21.02% of those from 5 to 14 years are estimated to have maximum immunity against diphtheria. A further 57.13% of these older children have been immunised but have not had their immunity strengthened by the administration of a re-inforcing injection.

AMBULANCE.

The ambulances answered 9,663 calls totalling 59,115 miles and carried 9,456 patients during the year. Cars conveyed 61 patients over a distance of 6,020 miles.

The ambulance fleet comprises a Commer (1953), a Commer (1951), a Daimler (1949), 2 Austins (1949) and a Bedford (1941).

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

TUBERCULOSIS

The general arrangements for tuberculosis prevention and care to which reference has already been made, remained unchanged during the year. The number of notifications of all forms of the disease continues to fall.

Statistical details relating to contacts have not been kept at the Chest Clinic but will be available for 1954. The Tuberculosis Health Visitor, in her dual role as clinic nurse to the Chest Physician, has every opportunity of ascertaining contacts of known cases.

Information concerning deaths from unnotified tuberculous disease is given to the Tuberculosis Health Visitor who immediately ascertains contacts of the deceased.

Close co-operation between the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Medical Officers, the Chest Physician and the Health Department has facilitated the resettlement of patients in employment and the obtainment of suitable work.

There are no vocational training schemes operating in Barrow and great difficulty is experienced in getting patients to travel outside the area in order to attend. Similar difficulty arises when trying to place patients in employment outside the town.

During 1953 approximately 12 tuberculous persons were on the Disabled Persons Register and of these, 8 were placed during the year, 4 going back to Industry and 4 being placed in jobs of a more sedentary nature.

It is emphasised by the Ministry of Labour that they only deal with cases who are notified to them by the Chest Clinic as being non infective.

DOMESTIC HELP.

210 cases were dealt with and 59 helps were in employment at the year end.

MENTAL HEALTH.

The following summary indicates work done by the Duly Authorised Officers.

SECTION 20, LUNACY ACT, 1890. 7 patients (5 male and 2 female) were removed to Roose Hospital on "three day" orders. Summary Reception Orders were prepared for these patients in respect of 2 males and 1 female who were transferred to Lancaster Moor Hospital.

3 male patients and 1 female were released.

11 patients (5 male and 6 female) were removed to Lancaster Moor Hospital on "three day" orders. Summary Reception Orders were issued by Magistrates for that area in respect of 1 male and 3 females included in that number. 4 males and 3 females became voluntary patients.

OTHER REMOVALS. In addition to the cases listed above, 104 cases who had not been the subject of a Section 20 Order were admitted to hospital. They comprised 8 males and 17 females who would previously have been admitted to Roose Hospital for certification but who were dealt with in their own homes and removed to Lancaster Moor Hospital on Summary Reception Orders and 32 voluntary males and 46 voluntary females and 1 female temporary were also admitted to Lancaster Moor Hospital. Officers of the Authority escorted all the cases admitted under Orders and 17 of the 78 voluntary patients.

In all 55 journeys to Lancaster were made.

OTHER WORK. Case histories were prepared in respect of 72 cases.

Home conditions reports were submitted in respect of 19 proposed discharges and 19 reports were prepared on cases released or on trial.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY. 4 males and 1 female were reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57(3), Education Act, 1944 and 4 males and 2 females under Section 57(5). The new cases were placed under statutory supervision and one of the females was admitted to institution.

The following table shows the disposal of ascertained defectives as at the year end together with details of the waiting list for institutional care at the same date.

	Under 16 years		16 and over	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under Statutory Supervision	6	6	34	26
Under Guardianship	—	—	—	1
In Place of Safety	1	—	—	—
In Institutions	5	2	52	52
Under Voluntary Supervision	4	—	3	11
Included in the above, but awaiting institutional vacancies	2	—	—	3

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action under Section 47 of this Act was taken during the year.

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

As Epilepsy and Cerebral Palsy are not notifiable and as no records are kept of cases occurring in the Borough, no accurate assessment can be made of their incidence. Several departments offer special facilities according to the severity of the condition.

The Welfare Department has a scheme to cover handicapped persons generally and statistics relating to such persons should be available in future years. The Orthopaedic Clinic and the local office of the Ministry of Labour know of additional cases.

School children are dealt with as necessary through the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953. In the case of epileptics and spastics not requiring special educational treatment, adequate facilities are available through the diagnostic and treatment services.

CIRCULAR 1/54—PARAGRAPH 5

There were 16 Forms B.D.8. received during the year. No case of retrolental fibroplasia was reported in a premature infant. The number of persons blinded by glaucoma who had received no treatment for their condition was 3.

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS
1ST JANUARY—31ST DECEMBER, 1953

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8. recommends :—	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment	6	1	—	1
(b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical)	2	2	—	—
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	—	1	—	—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year.